<u>ABSTRACT</u>

(00062) An apparatus and method for mechanically reinforcing the weld between a riser pipe and riser brace of a jet pump assembly are characterized by first and second attachment members for attachment on a riser brace of the jet pump assembly, and first and second clamp bodies respectively pivotally mounted on the attachment members for movement to a clamping position. In the clamping position, respective abutment surfaces of the clamp bodies are forced against a riser pipe that is attached to a yoke of the riser brace. The abutment surfaces apply radial forces to the riser pipe, and the radial forces are reacted by forces applied against the yoke by respective engagement elements of the attachment members whereby the riser pipe and riser brace are clamped together between the abutment surfaces and the engagement elements.